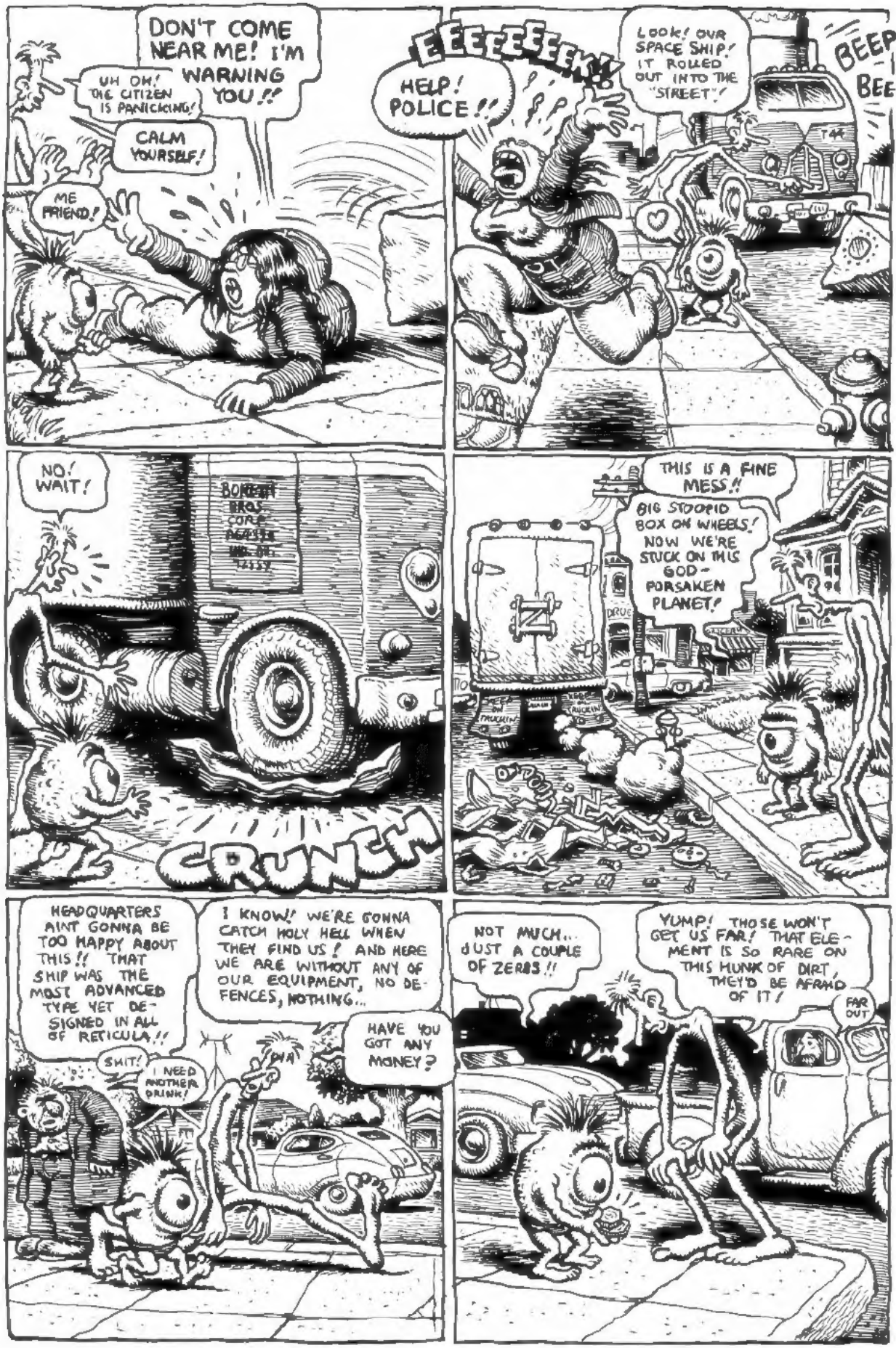
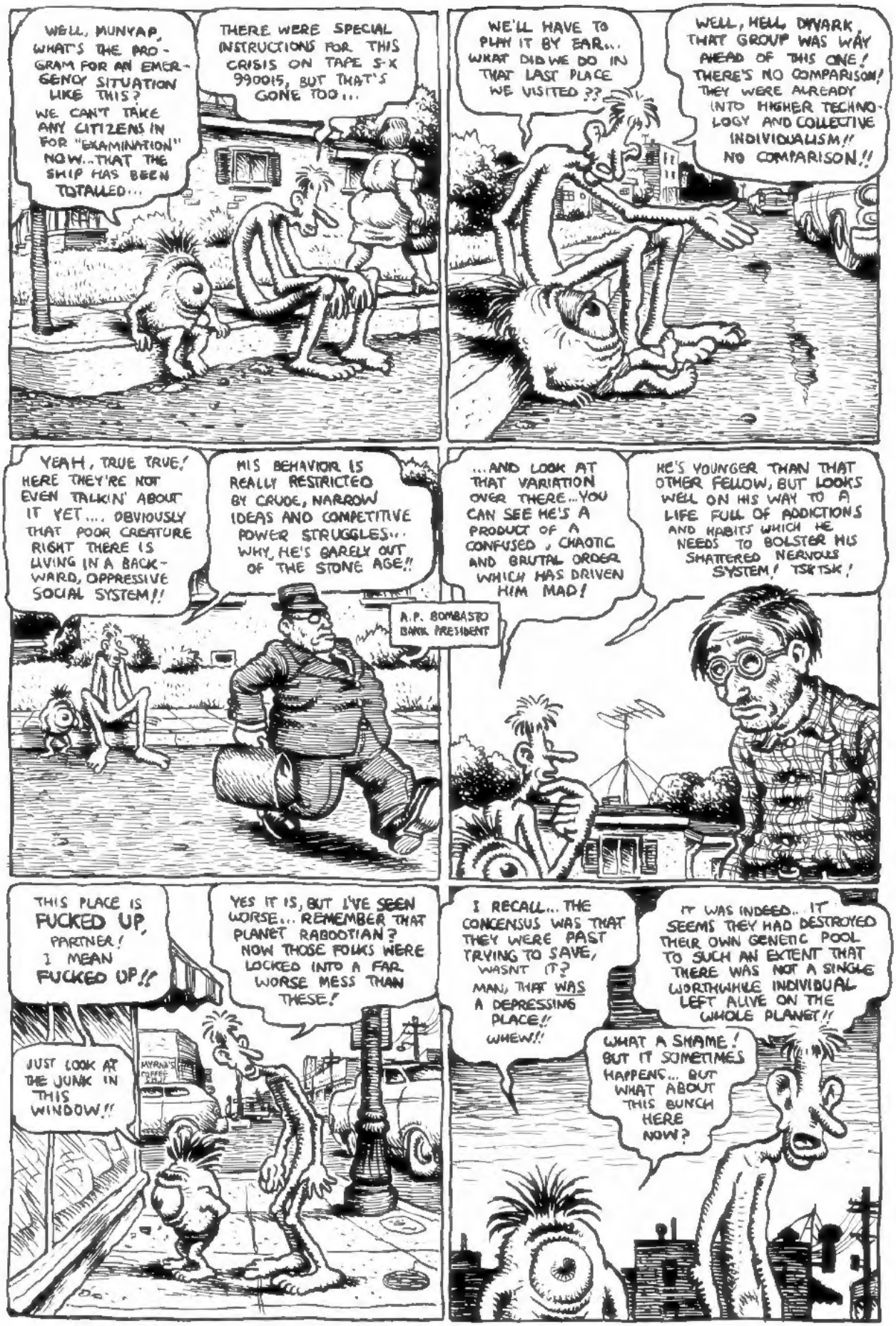
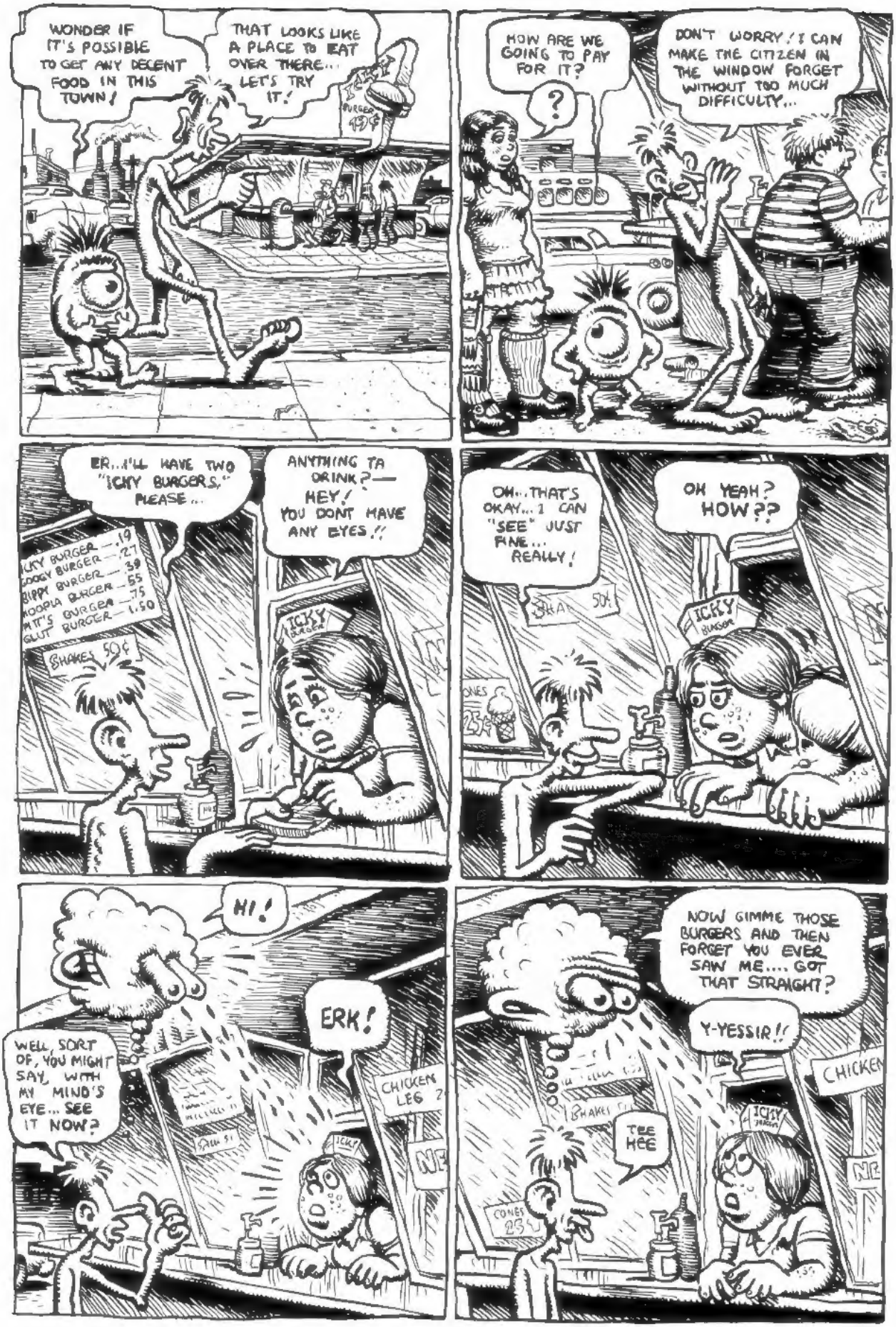
WHAT GIVES?
WHAT'S THE BIG QUESTION EVERYBODY'S ASKING THESE DAYS! WHAT THE HELL IS GOING ON?? NOBODY KNOWS ANYMORE! ARE WE GONNA PULL THRU OR NOT? CAN ANYBODY HELP US OUT OF THIS MESS?? CAN TWO GUYS FROM OUTER SPACE DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT? WE SHALL SEE!!
WELL, HERE WE ARE! NICE LOOKING PLANET, EH??
YEAH, IT'S BEAUTIFUL, BUT LOOK IT THOSE BIG FLYING MACHINES DOWN THERE! THOSE THINGS HAVE GOT TO BE BAD FOR THE ATMOSPHERE OF THIS PLACE! TSK TSK!
©1974 by R.CRUMB
TWO "CREATURES" REPRESENTING ANOTHER OF MANY JOINT MISSIONARY VENTURES FROM FAR-OFF STAR GROUPS TRAVEL TO THE PLANET EARTH. FOR WHAT PURPOSE? TO SEE WHAT CAN BE DONE TO SAVE US AND OUR PLANET FROM OUR OWN DESTRUCTION, OF COURSE!!
JEEZIZ! THE SIZE OF THAT TOWN DOWN THERE!! IT'S-IT'S—
NO SMOKING
IT'S RIDICULOUS! THEY'RE OLD ENOUGH TO KNOW BETTER! IT'S NOT HEALTHY!!
FIRST AID
AIR SICK BAGS
GOVT. ISSUE 42.00, 9.74
HISTORY OF EARTH
MEANWHILE, DOWN HERE, UFO ENTHUSIASTS FOR MILES AROUND HAVE ALREADY SPOTTED THE SPACE-SHIP!
WELL, I'LL BE DARN! ANOTHER NEW TYPE OF CRAFT!!
THAT MAKES THE TENTH ONE THIS WEEK, HARRY!!
HEY WHAT'S FOR LUNCH?

OKAY, MUNYAP, BRING 'ER IN FOR A LANDING!!
ME!? I THOUGHT THAT WAS YOUR DEPARTMENT, FARKWAR!!
WHAT? YOU MEAN TO TELL ME—— OH NO!!
OOF!!
OUCH! THAT HURT!
SPLANG!
OOCH OWCH OOCH OWCH
ALL OUR EQUIPMENT'S GETTING WRECKED!!
I THOUGHT THIS THING WAS FAIL-SAFE!!
SHOPS STOP
BASH
WE HIT SOMETHING SOFT!
THUD
OOPH!
WHERE ARE WE?
HMM... THIS LOOKS BAD... WE'RE ON TOP OF ONE OF THE CITIZENS!
ER.. WE'D LIKE TO THANK YOU ON BEHALF OF THE INTERSTELLAR FELLOWSHIP MISSION FOR SAVING OUR LIVES, AND.. UH...
I DON'T BELIEVE THIS!!
CUTE...


DON'T COME NEAR ME! I'M WARNING YOU!!
UH OH! THE CITIZEN IS PANICKING!
CALM YOURSELF!
ME FRIEND!
EEEEEEEK!!
HELP! POLICE!!
LOOK! OUR SPACE SHIP! IT ROLLED OUT INTO THE "STREET"!
BEEP BEEP
NO! WAIT!
CRUNCH
THIS IS A FINE MESS!!
BIG STOOPID BOX ON WHEELS! NOW WE'RE STUCK ON THIS GOD-FORSAKEN PLANET!
HEADQUARTERS AINT GONNA BE TOO HAPPY ABOUT THIS!! THAT SHIP WAS THE MOST ADVANCED TYPE YET DESIGNED IN ALL OF RETICULA!!
I KNOW! WE'RE GONNA CATCH HOLY HELL WHEN THEY FIND US! AND HERE WE ARE WITHOUT ANY OF OUR EQUIPMENT, NO DEFENCES, NOTHING...
SHIT!
I NEED ANOTHER DRINK!
HAVE YOU GOT ANY MONEY?
NOT MUCH... JUST A COUPLE OF ZERBS!!
YUMP! THOSE WON'T GET US FAR! THAT ELEMENT IS SO RARE ON THIS HUNK OF DIRT, THEY'D BE AFRAID OF IT!
FAR OUT


WELL, MUNYAP, WHAT'S THE PROGRAM FOR AN EMERGENCY SITUATION LIKE THIS? WE CAN'T TAKE ANY CITIZENS IN FOR "EXAMINATION" NOW...THAT THE SHIP HAS BEEN TOTALLED...
THERE WERE SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS FOR THIS CRISIS ON TAPE S-X 990015, BUT THAT'S GONE TOO...
WE'LL HAVE TO PLAY IT BY EAR... WHAT DID WE DO IN THAT LAST PLACE WE VISITED??
WELL, HELL DYVARK, THAT GROUP WAS WAY AHEAD OF THIS ONE! THERE'S NO COMPARISON! THEY WERE ALREADY INTO HIGHER TECHNOLOGY AND COLLECTIVE INDIVIDUALISM!! NO COMPARISON!!
YEAH, TRUE TRUE! HERE THEY'RE NOT EVEN TALKIN' ABOUT IT YET.... OBVIOUSLY THAT POOR CREATURE RIGHT THERE IS LIVING IN A BACKWARD, OPPRESSIVE SOCIAL SYSTEM!!
HIS BEHAVIOR IS REALLY RESTRICTED BY CRUDE, NARROW IDEAS AND COMPETITIVE POWER STRUGGLES... WHY, HE'S BARELY OUT OF THE STONE AGE!!
A.P. BOMBASTO BANK PRESIDENT
...AND LOOK AT THAT VARIATION OVER THERE...YOU CAN SEE HE'S A PRODUCT OF A CONFUSED, CHAOTIC AND BRUTAL ORDER WHICH HAS DRIVEN HIM MAD!
HE'S YOUNGER THAN THAT OTHER FELLOW, BUT LOOKS WELL ON HIS WAY TO A LIFE FULL OF ADDICTIONS AND HABITS WHICH HE NEEDS TO BOLSTER HIS SHATTERED NERVOUS SYSTEM! TSK TSK!
THIS PLACE IS FUCKED UP, PARTNER! I MEAN FUCKED UP!!
YES IT IS, BUT I'VE SEEN WORSE... REMEMBER THAT PLANET RABOOTIAN? NOW THOSE FOLKS WERE LOCKED INTO A FAR WORSE MESS THAN THESE!
JUST LOOK AT THE JUNK IN THIS WINDOW!!
I RECALL... THE CONCENSUS WAS THAT THEY WERE PAST TRYING TO SAVE, WASN'T IT? MAN, THAT WAS A DEPRESSING PLACE!! WHEW!!
IT WAS INDEED.. IT SEEMS THEY HAD DESTROYED THEIR OWN GENETIC POOL TO SUCH AN EXTENT THAT THERE WAS NOT A SINGLE WORTHWHILE INDIVIDUAL LEFT ALIVE ON THE WHOLE PLANET!!
WHAT A SHAME! BUT IT SOMETIMES HAPPENS... BUT WHAT ABOUT THIS BUNCH HERE NOW?


WONDER IF IT'S POSSIBLE TO GET ANY DECENT FOOD IN THIS TOWN!
THAT LOOKS LIKE A PLACE TO EAT OVER THERE... LET'S TRY IT.
BURGER 49¢
HOW ARE WE GOING TO PAY FOR IT?
?
DON'T WORRY! I CAN MAKE THE CITIZEN IN THE WINDOW FORGET WITHOUT TOO MUCH DIFFICULTY...
ER...I'LL HAVE TWO "ICKY BURGERS," PLEASE...
ANYTHING TA DRINK?— HEY! YOU DONT HAVE ANY EYES!!
ICKY BURGER — .19
OOGY BURGER — .27
BIPPY BURGER — .39
HOOPLA BURGER — .55
MIT'S BURGER — .75
GLUT BURGER — 1.50
SHAKES 50¢
ICKY BURGER
OH...THAT'S OKAY... I CAN "SEE" JUST FINE... REALLY!
OH YEAH? HOW??
5¢A
50¢
ICKY BURGER
CONES 25¢
HI!
ERK!
WELL, SORT OF, YOU MIGHT SAY, WITH MY MIND'S EYE... SEE IT NOW?
CHICKEN LEG ?
ICKY
NOW GIMME THOSE BURGERS AND THEN FORGET YOU EVER SAW ME.... GOT THAT STRAIGHT?
Y-YESSIR!!
CHICKEN
TEE HEE
SHAKES
ICKY BURGER
CONES 25¢

MUNYAP, YOU'RE SLIPPING... YOU KNOW ONE OF THE BASIC PRECEPTS OF THE MISSIONARIES IS NO UNNECESSARY DOMINATION OVER THE INHABITANTS! IT COULD CAUSE FEAR AND POSSIBLY HOSTILITY!
YOAH YEAH, BUT HOW ELSE ARE WE S'POSED TO GET ANY FOOD SINCE OUR SUPPLIES GOT TRASHED!!
YUM!!
DID YOU SEE THE LOOK ON HER FACE?! HA HA HA
I LOVE TO WATCH THE WAY OUT EAT, FAR-KWAR!
YOU'RE PRETTY FUNNY YOURSELF, WITH THAT "MOUTH"! QUIT LOOKIN' AT ME! IT MAKES ME NERVOUS!!
LET'S GET DOWN TO THE SERIOUS TASK AT HAND, NOW, WHADDAYA SAY?
YES, YOU'RE QUITE RIGHT... THERE IS URGENT BUSINESS TO ATTEND... WE GOTTA HIT THOSE DANGER ZONES!!
LET'S TELEPORT OVER TO THE BIG MILITARY CENTER... A PLACE CALLED "THE PENTA-GON"!!
GOOD THINKING! IT'S ONE FOR THE MONEY, TWO FOR THE SHOW, THREE TO GET READY AND FOUR TO...
WANNA TOUCH 'EM
GO!
POIT
WOW!! THIS PLACE IS SPOOKY!!
DO YOUR STUFF, MUNYAP!
OKAY... HERE COMES A LIKELY PROSPECT!!
HEY! LET'S SEE YOUR PASSES!!
"UH... GREETINGS! WE ARE TWO FRIENDLY VISITORS FROM OUTER SPACE... WE NEED YOU TO TAKE US TO THE GUY IN CHARGE AROUND HERE RIGHT NOW!!!"
THIS ROBOT'S A PUSH-OVER!
ACCUSTOMED TO TAKING ORDERS!

I'M AFRAID I CAN'T DO THAT... I DON'T KNOW THE PERSON OR PERSONS IN THAT POSITION.. I'LL HAVE TO TAKE YOU TO CAPTAIN FRAZER... SHE'S IN CHARGE OF "VISITORS"... WILL THAT BE ALRIGHT?
OKAY OKAY LET'S GO...
RIGHT THIS WAY!!
DON'T BE AFRAID, LADY... WE'RE HERE ON A FRIENDLY MISSION...
CONSIDERING THE RATHER UNUSUAL CIRCUMSTANCES, THIS IS NOT MY DEPARTMENT AT ALL! I'LL HAVE TO TURN YOU OVER TO MAJOR RICHTER IN THE "PUBLIC RELATIONS" SECTOR...
WHATEVER YOU THINK BEST "CAPTAIN" MA'AM!
CAPT. FRAZER PUBLIC RELATIONS
WHY ME?? THIS IS DEFINITELY A POLITICAL PROBLEM! I CANT DEAL WITH THIS SITUATION... WE'RE NOT EQUIPPED OVER HERE FOR SOMETHING OF THIS KIND! I...I...
IT'S GOT TO GO TO A HIGHER LEVEL! I'LL CALL THE STAFF OFFICER OF SECURITY DIVISION AND SEE WHAT HE SAYS!!
NO..NO... THEY'LL THINK I'M CRAZY AND GIVE ME THE RUN-AROUND AND I'LL WIND UP LOSING MY JOB... COME ON... I'LL TAKE YOU THERE MYSELF!! LIEUTENANT COLONEL BUXTON WILL COME UP WITH SOMETHING!!
I HOPE!!
YOUR CO-OPERATION IS MOST APPRECIATED, "MAJOR", SIR!
LEAD ON!!
WHEW! LOTTA FOOTWORK ON THIS GIG!!
WHAT IS THIS, MAJOR, A CANDID CAMERA PRANK?! WE'VE GOT IMPORTANT MATTERS TO GO OVER TODAY, AND I'M IN NO MOOD TO—
ULP GULP
NOW NOW... CALM YOURSELF, SIR... WE COME IN PEACE.. WE WISH TO MAKE CONTACT WITH WHOEVER HAS THE FINAL WORD IN THIS "PENTAGON" PLACE... THAT'S ALL...
IN OTHER WORDS, "TAKE US TO YOUR LEADER" HA HA HA...?
I...I SEE.. VERY WELL, THEN... YOU..YOU SEEM TO BE ON THE LEVEL... YOU'VE GOTTEN THIS FAR BY SOME POWER OR OTHER..., I'VE GOT TO HAVE TIME TO THINK... MY GOD, AM I GOING CRAZY? CAN THIS REALLY BE HAPPENING??!?
I'LL LEAVE YOU TO HANDLE THIS!
OF COURSE YOU'RE CRAZY! THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE INSTEAD OF AT HOME FUCKING OUR WIVES... BUT WE MEAN BUSINESS AND WE MUST TALK WITH YOUR SUPERIORS IMMEDIATELY!
IT'S ALL FOR THE GOOD... DON'T PUSH THE PANIC BUTTON, CHIEF...

HELLO, STRATEGIC COMMAND CENTER? LIEUTENANT COLONEL BUXTON CALLING FROM SECURITY DIVISION...I'VE GOT TO COME DOWN THERE RIGHT AWAY!!
BUXTON, THIS IS GENERAL THROCKMORTON SPEAKING! WE ALREADY GOT SOME PRETTY CRAZY STORIES FROM TWO OTHER DEPARTMENTS! WHAT THE HELL'S GOING ON DOWN THERE, BUXTON?!?
W-WELL, SIR, IT SEEMS THESE TWO ALIENS FROM OUTER SPACE ARE HERE AND....
NOT YOU TOO! THIS IS THE WORST CASE OF ENEMY INFILTRATION AND INSTANT BRAINWASHING WE'VE EVER HAD HERE... BUT SIT TIGHT...WE'VE SENT A SPECIAL SQUAD DOWN THERE WELL EQUIPPED TO DEAL WITH YOUR SO-CALLED "ALIENS"!!
BUT—
BUT—
GOOD LUCK AND KEEP IN TOUCH!!
Y-YES SIR GENERAL SIR...
SOME TROOPS AIRE COMIN' DOWN THE HALL, MUNYAP!
OH YEAH?
UH OH... THEY'VE BEEN DRUGGED TO RESIST PSYCHIC INFLUENCE!
TSK...LOOKS LIKE WE'LL HAVE TO GET PHYSICAL...
VOOT!
THAT MUST BE THEM!!
GOOD LORD!! THEY ARE ALIEN CREATURES!
GUESS WE SHOULD BLAST 'EM!!
I'LL CLOSE IN ON THEIR MOTOR NERVES..
LOOK OUT, FELLAS!!
YOW! DON'T MAKE ME SHOOT!
LEAD US TO THE "STRATEGIC COMMAND" CENTER!
OKAY OKAY... ONLY PLEASE DON'T MAKE ME KILL MYSELF!!
ME EITHER!!
AND ME!

HERE WE ARE... YOU BOYS CAN GO NOW, BUT BE GOOD!!
THANK YOU! THANK YOU!
STRATEGIC COMMAND
POSITIVELY NO ADMITTANCE!
IT'S LOCKED... WE'LL HAVE TO TELEPORT THRU TO THE OTHER SIDE...
ALRIGHT ALRIGHT, YOU FELLOWS... COME OUT FROM YOUR HIDING PLACES... WE'RE NOT GOING TO HURT YOU IN ANY WAY!!
PROMISE?
WORD OF HONOR?
YOUR POWERS OF MIND CONTROL ARE FAR IN ADVANCE OF OURS... YOU COULD DO ANYTHING YOU WANT TO US!!
PLEASE DON'T TAKE OVER OUR MINDS!!
YES, BUT WE DONT WANT TO DO ANY-THING TO YOU EX-CEPT TO GIVE YOU A WARNING AND SOME SOUND ADVICE!!
HOW IS IT THAT YOU ARE ABLE TO SPEAK ENGLISH??
I'M NOT "SPEAKING ENGLISH"... MY MIND PRO-JECTS AN INTERPRETATION OF MY THOUGHTS TO YOU IN YOUR OWN MODE OF EXPRESSION... IT'S A WIDELY TAUGHT SKILL BACK WHERE I COME FROM!!
ANYWAY, HERE'S THE THING... WE BOTH BELONG TO A SORT OF INNER-GALAXY "CLUB", YOU MIGHT SAY, WHICH IS DEVOTED TO THE STUDY AND APPRECIATION OF PRIMITIVE CULTURES SUCH AS YOURS, AND WE LIKE TO DO WHAT WE CAN TO HELP PRESERVE SUCH CUL-TURES IN TIMES OF GRAVE DANGER, AND RIGHT NOW YOU PEOPLE ON THIS PLANET ARE FACING THE IMMINENT POSSIBILITY OF SELF-DESTRUCTION!
HM
WE DONT WISH TO INTERFERE IN YOUR EVOLUTION, BUT WE'D HATE TO SEE THIS PLACE GO OVER THE EDGE... I MEAN, IT'S A NICE PLANET... BUT IF YOU DON'T STOP PLAYING AROUND SO CARELESSLY WITH YOUR NEW-FOUND TOYS OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, IT'S GONNA BE TOO BAD!
PSHAW! NOTHING'S GOING TO HAPPEN!!
WE'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL!!

YOU'VE GOT IT UNDER CONTROL MY ASS!! DON'T YOU REALIZE THE WHOLE PLANET IS IN DANGER OF—
WE'RE ONLY DOING OUR JOB!
WHAT ABOUT THE GODDAMN RUSSIANS!? THEY'RE IN THIS AS DEEP AS WE ARE!
GO TALK TO THE ROCKEFELLERS AND THEIR CRONIES! THEY'RE RUNNING THE WHOLE SHOW!!
TELL IT TO THE DEFENSE INDUSTRIES! THEY—
WE HAVE TO KEEP AMERICA STRONG OR THOSE GODDAMN COMMUNISTS WILL—
THE BANKS ARE THE REAL CULPRITS!! YOU SHOULD—
WHAT THE—
THE PLANET IS ENDANGERED!! THIS GAME YOU'RE PLAYING HAS GOT TO STOP!!!
UH OH
STOP!
STOP!!
STOP!
STOP!
STOP!
STO-O-O-O
GET HIM IN HERE QUICK!
A SHIP HAS ARRIVED TO TAKE US HOME, MUNYAD!!
COME ON
...TOO MANY POISONS IN THE ATMOSPHERE
YOU PEOPLE BETTER GET THIS MESS CLEANED UP!!
THE EVENTS OF THIS DAY MUST NEVER LEAVE THIS ROOM!
WE'LL DRUM UP SOME KIND OF EXPLANATION TO GIVE SECURITY AND PUBLIC RELATIONS...
I'M GOING HOME
END!